

April 19, 2022

ATTORNEY GENERAL RAOUL FILES SUIT TO ENSURE PROPER CLEANUP AFTER FUEL SPILL

Chicago — Attorney General Kwame Raoul today announced a lawsuit against Fuel South Express, LLC, in relation to the release of thousands of gallons of fuel from a tanker truck that occurred April 6 in Madison County.

[According to Raoul's lawsuit](#), the tanker truck overturned and spilled 8,000 gallons of its 9,000-gallon load of fuel near the intersection of Illinois Route 3 and St. Thomas Road around Granite City, Illinois. The tanker truck was carrying 6,400 gallons of reformulated gasoline and 2,600 gallons of ultra-low sulfur diesel fuel. The release occurred during heavy rain, and the spilled fuel traveled at least 200 feet in both directions, spreading into three ditches, a culvert and adjacent farm fields.

"If not immediately remediated, spilled fuel can cause significant damage to the environment as well as present dangers to human health," Raoul said. "Our complaint seeks to require Fuel South Express to take action to address this spill and ensure that any lingering environmental threats posed to the area are permanently abated."

The complaint seeks to require Fuel South Express to take immediate action to address any impact the release has had on the roads, medians, farmland and groundwater, as well as any other potential impacts to the environment. The filing also seeks to prevent conditions at the site from worsening and to require that Fuel South Express enter the state's Site Remediation Program to ensure oversight of the cleanup.

The filing follows a referral from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency to the Illinois Attorney General's office under the Illinois Environmental Protection Act.

"This was a serious situation, made worse by difficult weather conditions, which led to spilled fuel going beyond the roadway and causing significant impacts in adjacent medians and farmland," Illinois EPA Director John J. Kim said. "The Illinois EPA referred this emergency matter to the Attorney General's Office to allow for a quick response, and we will work closely with their staff to ensure all environmental impacts are addressed and remediated."

Assistant Attorneys General Raymond Callery, Bridget Flynn and Natalie Long are handling the case for Raoul's Environmental Bureau.